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INSTITUT **SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR** INSTITUTE

information bulletin

<http://artsandscience.concordia.ca/wsdb>

Issue 3. October 2006

Lillian Robinson-You Will Be Missed

On September 20, 2006, the Principal of the Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Dr. Lillian Robinson, passed away. Lillian was a prolific and well respected scholar, having published numerous books in the field of feminist criticism and cultural studies. But her contribution to the Simone de Beauvoir Institute far exceeded that of scholarship. Lillian worked to help make the Institute a vibrant, dynamic place where students, activists, and teachers could explore together the relations between knowledge and action. She showed us all, through her own activism and organizing, that feminist knowledge is about working for a better world, a world of social justice and compassion. While Lillian has left us, the lesson that she taught us all remains. We here at the Simone de Beauvoir Institute are excited to work with you – as students, teachers, mothers, activists, organizers – to forge a world where social justice prevails. Get involved in one of the Institute's committees, attend a public lecture, organize a conference, or speak with us about possible coalitions and collaborations between the Institute and your group. Work with us to help make the world a peaceful place for the planet and all of its inhabitants.



* A public memorial service for Lillian Robinson will be held on Sunday, November 12, 2006 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm in the Loyola Chapel, located at 7141 Sherbrooke St. West. See Institute website for more information: <http://artsandscience.concordia.ca/wsdb>

SdeB INSTITUTE FACULTY AND STAFF – 2006-2007

Viviane Namaste

Acting Principal, Associate Professor – Feminist Thought I and II, Health Issues: Feminist Perspectives.

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday: 2:30 - 3:30, MU-301, 848-2424 X 2371, vivane@alcor.concordia.ca

Chantal Maillé

Associate Professor – Introduction to Women's Studies I and II, Women and Peace, Feminist Ethics.

Office Hours: Tuesday: 10:00 – 11:00 or by appt. MU-302, 848-2424 X 2380, cmaille@alcor.concordia.ca

Alexander Antonopoulos

Part-time Faculty – Introduction to Women's Studies I and II, Queer Feminism.

Office Hours: Thursday: 5:00-6:00, MU-403-4, 848-2424 X 2378, k35260@er.uqam.ca

Michiko Aramaki

Part-time Faculty – Feminism and Research Methods, State Feminism, Women and Development.

Office Hours: Monday: 3:00-4:00 or by appt. MU-303-4, 848-2424 X 2375, maramaki@alcor.concordia.ca

Roksana Bahramitash

Part-time Faculty – Women and Development.

Office Hours: Tuesday: 1:00 – 3:00, MU-403-1, 848-2424 X 2378, rbahrami@alcor.concordia.ca

Robyn Diner

Part-time Faculty – Feminist Perspectives on Culture, Boys, Dudes and Men: Feminist Perspectives on Masculinity.

Office Hours: By appointment, robvnd@sympatico.ca

Karen Herland

Part-time Faculty – Framing the Prostitute.

Office Hours: Tuesday: 2:00 - 4:00, FB-346, 848-2424 X 4234, kherland@alcor.concordia.ca

Kahentinetha Horn

Part-time Faculty – First Nations' Women.

Office Hours: Thursday: 1:00 – 2:00, MU-203, kahentinetha2@yahoo.com

Doina Lecca

Part-time Faculty – Women in Eastern European Literature.

Office Hours: By appointment, EN-200, 848-2424 X 2460 or X 2450, dlecca@alcor.concordia.ca

Tanisha Ramachandran

Part-time Faculty – South Asian Women, Feminism, Race and Racism.

Office Hours: Monday: 11:30 – 1:00 or by appt, 848-2424 X 2373 or 2065, tanisharama@gmail.com

Brenda Rowe

Part-time Faculty – Introduction to Women's Studies I, Women of Colour.

Office Hours: Thursday: 4:30 - 5:50, MU - 203, brendarowe@johnabbott.qc.ca

Trish Salah

Part-time Faculty – Lesbian Issues and Realities, Transsexual and Transgender Cultural Production, Teaching Feminisms.

Office Hours: Monday & Thursday: 3:00-5:00, MU-303-1, 848-2424 X 2375, trishsalah@yahoo.ca.

Candis Steenbergen

Part-time Faculty – Sexualities: Feminist Approaches.

Office Hours: By appointment, FB – 346, 848-2424 X 4234, candis.steenbergen@sympatico.ca

Marc Lafrance

SSHRC Post-Doctoral Fellow

Office Hours: By appointment, MU 201-3, 848-2424 X 2372, mLafranc@alcor.concordia.ca

Linda Bowes

Programme Secretary/Academic Advisor

Office Hours: By appointment, MU-202-2, 848-2424 X 2370, belinda@alcor.concordia.ca

Marie-Claire MacPhee

Communications Officer

Office Hours: See office schedule (pg. 3), MU-201-1, 848-2424 X 2373, m_macphee@alcor.concordia.ca

Isabelle Lamoureux

Librarian. Office Hours: Monday – Thursday: 10:00 – 4:00, MU-401-1, 848-2424 X 2377, lamoureux_isabelle@hotmail.com

A message from the Acting Principal – Viviane Namaste

Hello. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Viviane Namaste. I am the Acting Principal of the Simone de Beauvoir Institute for the fall 2006 semester. This is a time of great change and renewal here at the Institute: changes which can be both difficult and energizing.

This fall, the Institute is offering a number of new and exciting courses. In addition to our regular offerings such as "Queer Feminism," "South Asian Women" and "Black Women's Culture," several new courses round out the curriculum. Sexuality is one focus of courses this fall, exemplified in courses like "Lesbian Issues and Realities" and "Framing the Prostitute." Students interested in questions of policy and social movements are enjoying the course "State Feminism." Next term, watch out for courses like "Feminism, Race and Racism," "Marxism and Feminism," "Teaching Feminisms, Pedagogy" and "Women in Eastern Europe."

One of the things the Institute tries to do is to offer courses that will expand minds, push boundaries and further learning. Students are encouraged to suggest topics for future courses. We can't guarantee that every suggestion will become a course, but we can offer a forum to discuss the issues and to listen to the curriculum priorities identified by students.

If you have specific ideas about a course you would like to see, speak with a member of the WSSA executive (Women's Studies Students Association). You can always leave a message for WSSA in their mailbox at the Institute. You may also speak with me directly about a course you would like to see, feel free to call or drop by!

A number of different events are planned for this fall, which we hope will stimulate your mind. Check out Shiva Sadeghi's talk on Immigrant Iranian Women at the Crossroads of Tradition and Modernity, or drop by the public lecture to be given by Amita Handa, who will speak on the lives of South Asian women.

On a more administrative note, the Institute is currently in the process of hiring an additional full-time faculty person in the area of Feminism, Race and Racism. The Hiring Committee is meeting soon to discuss potential applicants. Watch for posters in the coming months advertising public lectures from candidates who have been short-listed for an interview. We are excited about the growth of the Institute, as well as the contributions this person will make to Institute life and learning.

We hope to see you at the different events and activities of Institute life this fall!

Viviane Namaste – Acting Principal

SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR INSTITUTE OFFICE HOURS:

General Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00-5:00
Tuesday & Thursday 9:00-4:30

Academic Advisor (Linda Bowes)

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 – 4:30, Friday: 9:00 – 4:00

Communications Officer/Office Secretary (M-C MacPhee)

Monday 9:00 – 6:00, Wednesday & Friday: 9:00 – 5:00

NOTES FROM INSTITUTE FOLKS...

From the Simone de Beauvoir Institute READING ROOM

Just to remind you all that you have a great library call the Reading Room on the 4th floor of the Institute where you can borrow books (fiction and non-fiction); read and study quietly; search the Internet; work on group projects; etc.

My name is Isabelle, and I am your dedicated librarian. I am in the Reading Room Monday thru Thursday, and short of writing your paper, I'll help you in anyway I can! This is a service offered to all students but particularly to Women's Studies students. So come see me and don't wait until the last minute to start your paper (but if you do I won't hold it against you!) ☺

Enjoy the fall and Happy Halloween!

Isabelle ☺

READING ROOM HOURS FALL - 2006

MONDAY: 10:00am – 8:00pm

TUESDAY: 10:00am – 8:00pm

WEDNESDAY: 10:00am – 4:00pm

THURSDAY: 10:00am – 8:00pm

**You can contact the reading room at:
(514) 848-2424 ext. 2377**

A message from MARC LAFRANCE

SSHRC Post-Doctoral Fellow at the SdeB

My name is Marc Lafrance and I will be holding a two-year SSHRC post-doctoral fellowship at the Simone de Beauvoir Institute.

I earned my Masters and Doctoral degrees in French and Women's Studies at the University of Oxford. Throughout these degrees, I focused on questions of gender, sexuality, subjectivity and embodiment as they pertain to the work of a range of contemporary thinkers. Informed by feminist, queer and trans theory, I am presently involved in three research projects that relate to the following: 1) psychoanalysis and body image; 2) plastic surgery and the experience of embodiment; and 3) women, culture and popular music.

If you work in areas similar to mine and would like to meet, or are just interested in popping by for a chat, please contact me at: 848 2424 x 2372 or mllafranc@alcor.concordia.ca

Hope to see you all soon!
Marc

THE WOMEN'S STUDIES STUDENT'S ASSOCIATION (WSSA)

The Women's Studies Student Association (WSSA) consists of student representatives who support academic and creative endeavors that highlight social injustices pertinent to gender, class, race and ability inequalities.

Membership is open to all Women's Studies students. Throughout the year WSSA sponsors social and academic events for students as well as representing students' concerns on several Institute committees.

WSSA also publishes *Subversions: The Journal of Gender and Sexuality* which accepts written, photographic and creative works by students from all the faculties at Concordia.

If you would like more information, or would like to get involved please email us at:

wssa_concordia@hotmail.com
or visit: www.subversions.ca

CONGRATULATIONS SdeB INSTITUTE MEMBERS AND STUDENTS!!!

Spring 2006 SdeB Institute Graduates:

With Major in Women's Studies:

Lisa Bonnell
Michelle Chan
Kimberly Melanie Dawson
David Finkelstein
Christina Foisy
Melissa Eryn Grossman
Carolyn McCarthy
Patricia McIntosh (with distinction)

With a Minor in Women's Studies:

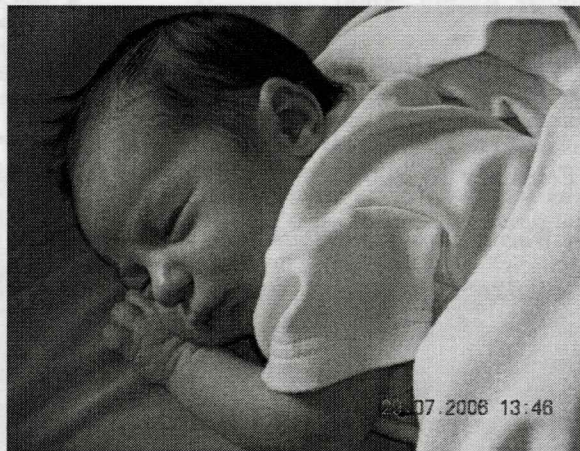
Amy Meredith Buckland
Alison Piercey

SdeB Students on the 2005-2006 Deans List:

Carolyn Wilson
Marie-Claire MacPhee
Tifanie Valade
Talia Kleinplatz
Rebecca Reeves
Ambrose Kirby
Marie-Christine Monchalin
Marni Kellison
Jasmine Ing
Katherine Bateman

A WARM INSTITUTE WELCOME TO

~ BERLYNNE CHIME STEENBERGEN ~



Berlynne was born to **Candis Steenbergen** (Part-time faculty) and **Mark Lucke**
on July 25 2006, 6 pounds 13 ounces, 20 cms long, 10 days late
and happy as a clam...!

Congratulations Candis and Mark!

UPCOMING SdeB INSTITUTE EVENTS

SdeB INSTITUTE SEMINAR SERIES

The SdeB Institute Seminar Series provides a forum to present the latest feminist research and to introduce new projects. Its aim is to foster fruitful discussion and feedback. We wish also to encourage student attendance and dialogue. This Series is organized by Karin Doerr and Michiko Aramaki.

All Seminars are held at the SdB Institute.
2170 Bishop - Room MU - 101
1:30 - 3:30pm

Friday, November 17, 2006

"Educated Housewives": Immigrant Iranian Women at the Crossroads of Tradition and Modernity

By Dr. Shiva Sadeghi

(SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow,
OISE - University of Toronto)

January 19, 2007

Engendering an Islamic Public Sphere: Women in the Jamaat-e-Islami of Pakistan

By Dr. Amina Jamal

(Visiting Asst. Professor - Dept. Of Sociology
SUNY College at Potsdam, NY)

February 16, 2007

Pro & Contra Warner Bros: Power Puff Girls

By Dr. Rasa Ziemyte

(Simone de Beauvoir Institute Research Associate)

March 16, 2007

Women's Protest and Resistance to the FLN during the Algerian War, 1954-62.

By Dr. Ryne Seferdjeli

(University of Ottawa)

More information about the individual Seminar presentations and presenters will be posted on the Institute website closer to the date of each lecture.

The Simone de Beauvoir Institute is proud to host

Dr. M. Catherine Maternowska

Assistant Professor, Center for Reproductive Health Research and Policy, University of California, San Francisco.

who will discuss her new book:

Reproducing Inequalities: Poverty and the Politics of Population in Haiti

(New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 2006)

Tuesday, November 14, 2006

Simone de Beauvoir Institute
2170 Bishop, Conference Room
MU 203 - 12:00 (noon)

In *Reproducing Inequities*, M. Catherine Maternowska argues that we too easily overlook the political dynamics that shape choices about family planning. Through a detailed study of the attempt to provide modern contraception in the community of Cité Soleil, Maternowska demonstrates the complex interplay between local and global politics that so often thwarts well-intended policy initiatives.

Dr. Maternowska is a medical anthropologist interested in exploring the ways that health-related policies can harm, rather than enhance public health and using ethnographic research as a tool for investigating how best to improve policy and ultimately practice. She is developing further studies on the social dynamics of NGO activities in health that assess the interface between international development, national counterparts and the poor communities they are supposed to serve.

END OF TERM LECTURE AND PARTY

With DR. & DJ Amita Handa

Thursday, November 23rd

End of year party with DJs Amita Handa (Toronto) and Lynne T (Lesbians on Ecstasy)

La Sala Rossa, 4848 Blvd St. Laurant
(More information to come)

Friday, November 24th

Lecture with Dr. Amita Handa about her book *Of Silk Saris and Miniskirts*, and the lives and struggles of South Asian teenaged girls.

Hall Building, Room 767, 2:00pm
(More information to come)

HIV/AIDS LECTURE SERIES

November 23rd, 2006

Film in the Time of Sickness

Khalo Matabane is an award winning South African filmmaker whose films have brought him both national and international acclaim. He will be speaking about and showing his autobiographical film *Love in a Time of Sickness* in the context of other South African cinematic initiatives. This film explores the complexities and difficulties of forming relationships in a time when AIDS forms such an undeniable part of the South African experience.

January 25th, 2007

25 ans de VIH: nouveaux défis pour mères et enfants

Guylaine Morin is a social worker at Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Sainte-Justine. A former « Héroïne » honored by the Farha Foundation, Ms. Morin will be speaking on her professional experiences in dealing with the HIV/AIDS pandemic with a focus on mother to child transmission. This lecture constitutes our annual lecture in French.

March 1st, 2007

United in Anger: The ACT UP Oral History Project

Sarah Schulman is a distinguished New York writer and playwright, currently teaching at The College of Staten Island. She was a founding member of the *AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power*, New York. Sarah will be speaking on the ACT UP Oral History Project, which she has co-developed. This project archives and distributes interviews with surviving members of ACT UP. Schulman's Concordia Visit will tentatively include a limited enrolment theatre & creative writing workshop, oriented towards the HIV/AIDS crisis.

*For information, go to: <http://aids.concordia.ca/>

19th Image + Nation Film Festival

Le festival international de cinéma lgbt de
Montréal
International LGBT Film Festival.

November 16 – 26, 2006.
For full details and schedule see:

www.image-nation.org

The SdeB Institute Presents:

Come hear queer Sri Lankan performance poet

Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha

launch her first collection of work

Consensual Genocide!

With fierce power, Piepzna-Samarasinha tells raw truths about brown girl border crossings before and after 9/11, queer of color life and high femme rebellions. *Consensual Genocide* celebrates our survival and marks our rebel memories into history.

Thursday, November 16th, 2006.
Location and time to be confirmed!

“Political Economy Hits Back: Ahmadinejad's Presidency and Gender Rights Advocacy in Iran”

A Lecture by

Dr. Roksana Bahramitash

Friday, November 3, 2006
McGill University ICAMES, 3465 Peel
Seminar room (3rd floor). 15h30-17h30

Roksana Bahramitash is the author of the book *Liberation from Liberalization: Gender and Globalization in Southeast Asia*, (Zed Books 2005). She has recently received a three-year research grant from the SSHRCC for research on Globalization, Islamism and Women.

Bahramitash is based at McGill Centre for Developing Area Study as well as at the Simone de Beauvoir Institute.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE SdeB INFO BULLETIN:

Please send me your ideas and submissions for the newsletter! If there are themes you'd like us to follow, topics you'd like us to cover, or articles and announcements you'd like us to publish, please do not hesitate to send them in!

You can contact me at:

Marie-Claire MacPhee
Simone de Beauvoir Institute
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MU-201-1, Montréal, Québec. H3G 1M8.
(514) 848-2424 ext. 2373
m_macphee@alcor.concordia.ca
<http://artsandscience.concordia.ca/wsdb>



Discourses of Denial

Mediations of Race, Gender, and Violence

**Congratulations to SdB Research Associate Yasmin Jiwani
on the release of her new book:**

Discourses of Denial : Mediations of Race, Gender and Violence

University of British Columbia Press, 2005. www.ubcpress.ca/search/title_book.asp?BookID=4537

Discourses of Denial uncovers how racism, sexism, and violence interweave deep within the foundations of our society. Using examples from the lives of immigrant girls and women of colour, Yasmin Jiwani considers the way accepted definitions of race and gender shape and influence public consciousness. With a perspective both academic and activist, she exposes how media representations of violence serve the status quo and fail to tell the whole story about racialized and gendered inequalities.

YASMIN JIWANI



The Information Bulletin is also available on-line in Adobe Acrobat format at:
<http://artsandscience.concordia.ca/wsdw> and follow the link at the bottom of the page.